## CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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## Burn Suspension Lifted Fire Season Winding Down

**Sacramento-** Because of the recent change in the weather and the reduced threat of wildfire in most of the state, Andrea Tuttle, the Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) has lifted the ban on open burning within state responsibility area. Director Tuttle declared the ban on June 27, 2002 due to extraordinary dry conditions statewide.

"As of 8:00 a. m. November 8, 2002 open burning will be allowed with an appropriate permit," said Jim Wright, CDF Chief of Fire Protection. "Even though the danger is much less, a fire can still escape," cautioned Chief Wright. "It is critical that the individual conducting the burn keep close watch on the fire at all times. Remember you can be held liable for suppression costs and property damage if it gets away."

Contact the nearest CDF facility and/or local fire department to acquire the proper permit. It may also be necessary in some areas to obtain a permit from the local air quality district.

The CDF is transitioning out of fire season status in the northern portion of the state. All CDF units north of Sacramento will start reducing staffing as of 5:00 p.m. November 7. CDF managers are evaluating the affects of the recent rains in the central valley and coastal areas as well, and may announce reductions there next week. At this time, the far southern portion of the state remains on fire season status.

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